

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 06853 230828Z

12

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 L-02 /045 W

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P R 230800Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9342

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 6853

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SA, XF

SUBJECT: VISIT OF "CONSTELLATION" TASK FORCE TO PERSIAN GULF

REF: (A) JCS 1237 DTG 171519Z

(B) COMSEVENTHFLT NO31020 DTG 181600Z NOV 74

(C) STATE 255250

1. WE NOTE PER REFTELS THAT TASK FORCE CONSISTING OF CARRIER CONSTELLATION AND NUMBER OF OTHER NAVY VESSELS WILL BE ENTERING PERSIAN GULF NOVEMBER 24 AND WILL TRAVEL TO A POINT JUST NORTH OF DHAHRAN.

2. IF ENTRY OF CONSTELLATION INTO THE GULF IS RAISED WITH US BY SAG OFFICIALS, WE WILL REPLY SIMPLY THAT THE TASK FORCE IS ON A NORMAL TRAINING CRUISE (PENDING RECEIPT ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS PER REF C).

3. FROM STANDPOINT OF CRUISE'S IMPACT IN SAUDI ARABIA, IT WOULD BE USEFUL ALSO IF CONSTELLATION COULD PROCEED FARTHER TO THE NORTH SO THAT ITS PRESENCE MIGHT BE NOTED BY THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT AS WELL. TASK FORCE

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THEREBY WOULD NOT SEEM TO BE SINGLING OUT SAUDI ARABIA'S

EASTERN PROVINCE FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION, AND ITS GULF
TRIP COULD IN SAUDI MINDS BE PLACED IN CONTEXT OF RUSSIAN AND OTHER
EAST BLOC NAVAL ACTIVITIES AT UMM QASR IN IRAQ.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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